



Litter Control and Recycling Fund Advisory Board (Fund Board)

Appointed by the Governor, five individuals provide recommendations to DEQ on the annual grants program and on other issues related to funding support of Virginia's litter prevention and recycling locality programs. The members are: Dennis Gallagher, Rosemary Byrne, Aimee Hadfield, George Hunnicutt, and Michael O'Connor (info at www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle/board.html).

Litter Laws of the Commonwealth

Littering is against the law in Virginia. The following Code of Virginia sections (indicated by §) apply:

- § 10.1-200.2 Littering in State Parks is punishable by a fine (not to exceed \$250).
- § 10.1-1418.1 Improper disposal of solid waste can result in civil action, with fines up to \$5,000.
- § 10.1-1421 Removal of litter from litter receptacles is the responsibility of the owner.
- § 10.1-1422.01 Litter taxes collected are to be distributed for use by locality litter prevention and recycling programs as directed.
- § 15.2-733 Summons are authorized for violations of litter control ordinances.
- § 15.2-901 Localities may pass ordinances to allow for mandatory cleanups of private property by owner, or by the locality with cost recovery rights. Civil penalties may be assessed up to \$3,000 per year.
- § 29.1-338 Hunters, trappers or fishermen, if convicted of littering, shall have their licenses revoked for 1 year.
- § 33.1-346 Illegal to dump trash, garbage, refuse or litter on public property, including a public highway, right-of-way, property adjacent to such highway or right-of-way, or on private property without the written consent of the owner thereof or his agent. Conviction can result in confinement in jail for not more than 12 months and a fine of not less than \$250 or more than \$2,500, either or both. In lieu of jail confinement, the court may order the defendant to perform community service in litter abatement activities.
- § 58.1-1707 Litter Tax levied on businesses as manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors or retailers of products which have been identified in § 58.1-1708.
- § 58.1-1708 Manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors or retailers of the following products shall be subject to the tax imposed in § 58.1-1707: 1. Food for human or pet consumption; 2. Groceries; 3. Cigarettes and tobacco products; 4. Soft drinks and carbonated waters; 5. Beer and other malt beverages; 6. Wine; 7. Newspapers and magazines; 8. Paper products and household paper; 9. Glass containers; 10. Metal containers; 11. Plastic or fiber containers made of synthetic material; 12. Cleaning agents and toiletries; 15. Motor vehicle parts.

Central Virginia Litter Summit

The Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (CVWMA) will host a regional litter summit on April 19, 2005, at the office of the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission on Laburnam Avenue, Richmond. Speakers include the Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources, David K. Paylor, and the Executive Director of Clean Virginia Waterways, Katie Register. Topics will include litter's effect on the community, litter prevention tools and programs, and regional goals and objectives for the CVWMA service area.

For information about the Litter Summit, contact CVWMA at (804) 359-8413.

Governments to Rid the Potomac River of Trash

Washington-area governments have decided to reduce illegally dumped trash in the Potomac River and its tributaries. Leaders from six governments, including Fairfax County, four Maryland counties and Washington, signed a "trash treaty" that aims to make the river trash free by 2013. Under the agreement, local governments will bolster recycling programs, hold annual meetings to discuss the river's state and increase resident education. The deal was organized by leaders of the annual Potomac River cleanup.

Litter – What's In It?

Each year Clean Virginia Waterways reports the results of its sponsored waterway cleanup events, including a record of the materials recovered from the cleanups. Information from the Clean Virginia Waterways web site (www.lwc.edu/cleanva) provides the following litter breakdown for 2003:

Litter Item	% of total litter recovered
plastic beverage bottles	25%
food wrappers/containers	15%
beverage cans	12%
cigarettes/cigarette filters	9%
glass beverage bottles	8%
bags	7%
picnic materials	6%
caps and lids	5%
bait containers/packaging	2%
cigarette lighters	1%

These percentages are based upon a breakdown of the 45,674 separate items collected by the event participants.

Adopt-a-Stream Information

Virginia's streams have been adopted by 118 different environmental groups, from boy scout troops and schools to garden clubs and wilderness clubs. For information about the AAS program, contact Lane Guillems at (804) 692-0903, via email at lane.guillems@dcv.virginia.gov, or visit the web site at www.dcr.virginia.gov/sw/adopt.htm.



Litter Picks

Electronic Newsletter

April 2005

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Environmental Enhancement
P.O. Box 10009, Richmond, Virginia 23240. (804) 698-4029 Fax (804) 698-4224.

DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

Welcome to Litter Picks, a look at litter prevention news in the Commonwealth and across the nation. We hope that some of this information is helpful to you in your programs, and hope you'll help us with news from your area related to litter prevention and awareness. Had a successful clean up event? Recognized companies or citizens for their clean up efforts? Have questions or suggestions about this newsletter? Let us know by sending this information to Steve Coe at gscoc@deq.virginia.gov.

Special Events of Interest, 2005

April 1- May 31 Stewardship Virginia Spring Campaign
April 9 - June 31 2005 Spring Statewide Litter Campaign
April 10-12 Environment Virginia 2005, Lexington, Virginia (VMI)
April 16-24 Historic Garden Week
April 22 Earth Day
May 21-24 National River Rally (Wintergreen)
June 11 Clean the Bay Day
Sept 1 – Oct 31 Stewardship Virginia Fall Campaign
Sept 17 International Coastal Cleanup, Virginia

Litter Training Seminar – Evaluation Results

1. What did you like most about this seminar?
Networking, well designed/implemented, very informative, good speakers, and a good site.
2. What could have been done better? 2-day event rather than 1-day, larger TV/monitor for video presentations, better use of microphone by speakers, and separate break-out rooms for discussions.
3. If this seminar was helpful, would you like additional seminars in the future? Yes, with most identifying annually as the best option, in a central location, a full day rather than a partial day, and continued as a joint VDOT-AAH/Local Litter Coordinator meeting.
4. General suggestions from evaluations: more information on law enforcement options, best practices, getting the business community involved, finding funding, cooperative program opportunities, and more educational options.

Web Link of interest:

- o (www.dcr.virginia.gov/stewardship/index.htm)

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Litter Training Seminar – What You Should Know

Information, information, information! The attendees at the Litter Training Seminar in late February kept repeating this mantra, and many of the goals set in the sessions reflected this need for knowing what is available and what is going on as you plan your own environmental events.

Here's how all of us can help. By visiting the *Stewardship Virginia* web site (see [Web Links of Interest](#) below), you can register your environmental event(s), and also see what other events are already scheduled for 2005 (see below). As of Thursday, March 30, thirty-five different events had been posted; six events were scheduled before April 1! Eleven events are scheduled between April 1 and April 15! Events are scheduled from Norfolk to Arlington, Frederick County to Bluefield, Roanoke to Bristol, and Richmond to the Mouth of Wilson.

Have you registered your event(s) yet? Remember: all events registered with *Stewardship Virginia* will receive a letter of appreciation from the Governor for your efforts!

Stewardship Virginia Events, 2005

3/12-19-26	Nelson County roadside litter pickups
3/18-19	Henry County cleanup
3/26 & 4/2	Keep Norfolk Beautiful Days
4/2	Sky Meadows State Park trail cleanup
	Potomac River watershed cleanup
4/2-3	Chesterfield County Cleanup Days
4/6	Norfolk Project Learning Tree Workshop
4/9	Charlottesville Belmont Beautification Day
	Dutch Gap Cleanup, Henricus Historical Pk
	Collinsville HHW Day
	Danville River cleanup
4/15	Pocahontas State Park wildflower planting
4/16	Goochland Adopt-a-Highway cleanup
	Scott County river cleanup
	Frederick/Warren County roadside cleanup
4/20	Sandbridge beach cleanup
4/23	Blackwater/Nottoway Rivers cleanup
	Roanoke Earth Day Celebration
	Bristol Great American Cleanup Day
	Pocahontas State Park planting event
	Mouth-of-Wilson Spring Spruce-Up
4/30	Scotts Community Garden Day (Norfolk)
5/7	Smith Mountain Lake Cleanup
5/14	Chester Stewardship VA Day
	Silver Beach Watershed Festival
5/21	Arlington stream cleanup
April and Spring events without dates: Frederick County Litter-Thon, Powhatan County cleanup, and Bluefield Litter Pickup/Beautification	